(b) what is Government's present thinking about the counter trade deal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) and (b) Counter Trade exports under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the State Trading Corporation with M/s. Bofors is about Rs 516 crores till 31st October, 1990. To ensure additionality in exports, the MOU contains certain guidelines. The counter trade exports have been given credit according to these guidelines. To further tighten the additionality criteria, a new list of commodities (mostly value added items) has been finalised, exports of which only will be given credit for counter trade M/s. A. B. Bofors have agreed to these modifications for implementation during the calendar year 1991.

Foreign exchange earnings by top twenty exporters

857. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the net foreign exchange earned by the top twenty exporters of the country during the last three years, year-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): The office of CCI&E does not maintain information on net foreign exchange earned by exporters. It is, therefore, not possible to furnish the figures of performance in respect of the top 20 exporters. However, information of the net foreign exchange earned by the top 20 star trading houses|trading houses|export houses is annexed to the answer as Statement.

Statement

Net foreign exchange earnings of Top 20 Star Trading Houses, Trading Houses and Export Houses, during the last three years

(Rupees in crores)

Sl No	Name	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
1	2	3	4	5
1	M/s Minerals and Metals Trading Corpn. of India Ltd, New Delhi	40 16	27 73	N.A.
2	M/s National Aluminium Co. Ltd., Bhubaneshwar	15·63	181 58	352 8
3	M/s National Minerals Development Corpn. Ltd, Hyderabad	N A	N A	N A.
4	M/s. Tata Exports Ltd, Bombay	99 97	133 16	164·07
5	M/s Coffee Board, Bangalore	147 64	N A	N A
6	M/s. J V Gokal & Co, Bombay	73 03	78 84	154 15
7	M/s Tata Iron and Steel Co Ltd., Bombay	11 38	46 38	61·37
8	M/s B Vijaykumar & Co, Bombay	14·17	29 66	N.A.
9	M/s Allanasons Ltd, Bombay	85 12	110 03	120 56
10	M/s Nava Bharat Enterprises Ltd, Hyderabad	92·75	82·11	112 02
11	M/s. Gitanjali Exports Corpn., Bombay	9·91	8 22	23 52

1	2	3	4	5
12	M/s. I.T C Ltd., Calcutta .	31 51	49 81	N.A.
13	M/s M J Exports Ltd., Bombay .	42 23	44 50	35 63
14	M/s Century Textiles & Industries Ltd., Bombay	76 58	76 24	99 92
15	M/s Steel Authority of India Ltd , New Delhi	16 52	19 25	28 68
16	M/s National AG CO-OP Mkt Fed of India Ltd., New Delhi .	17 98	20 26	N A.
17	M/s Everest Gems, Bombay	(—)3 74	14 50	9 69
18	M/s Ganapati Exports Ltd , Calcutta .	62 08	56 50	66·78
19	M/s A Tosh & Sons, Calcutta . .	47 98	41 07	77 43
20	M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd , Bombay .	64 26	46 10	N A.

NOTE N A means Not Available

Recognition given under star trading houses scheme

858 DR YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that only a few business houses are eligible for recognition under the newly introduced star trading houses scheme in the Import-Export Policy for 1990—95, and

(b) if so, how many business houses have so far been recognised under the Scheme and how many are likely to be recognised in 1990-91?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) and (b) Six applications were received for the grant of Star Trading House Certificates till 31-12-1990, the last date of filing such applications. Of these, one has been rejected as the applicant did not fulfil the eligibility criteria Two applicants have been *prima facie* found eligible for issue of Star Trading House Certificates. The remaining three applications are being examined.

Export of pepper to the United States

859 DR YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export of pepper to the United States has sharply come down because of the stringent quality control measures imposed by the U S. Authority, FDA;

(b) whether it is also a fact that US authorities have found rodent and bird excreta in Indian pepper;

(c) if so, how much substandard pepper was exported under quality control labels issued by Government authorities; and

(d) what steps are being taken to regain the US market?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL) (a) Decline in export of pepper to USA was mainly due to stiff competition from other producing countries

(b) to (d) According to the Export Inspection Council, since May, 1988 only one consignment of Black Pepper valued at